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News Release

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KAUAI POLICE DEPARTMENT
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Hiker dies at Wailua Falls; Police identify victim

LĪHUʻE – The Kauaʻi Police Department has identified the 28-year-old female who died at Wailua Falls Saturday afternoon as Nicole Chavez of Chile.

According to a preliminary report, KPD personnel received a call of a lost hiker at approximately 3:50 p.m. Saturday. A traveling partner of Chavez reportedly asked hikers nearby to assist with locating her after she didn't return to the Wailua Falls lookout for two hours. Hikers made their way to the bottom of the falls and located Chavez, who was unresponsive.

Personnel with the Kauaʻi Fire Department, including firefighters with the Līhuʻe fire station, Air 1, Rescue 3, and the on-duty Battalion Chief, assisted in recovering the victim.

Foul play is not suspected in Chavez's death.

In the interest of safety, officials remind everyone that Wailua Falls is closed off to hiking. "No Hiking," "No Trespassing," and "Danger" signs are in the area, advising the public.

Volunteers with Life's Bridges, a grief counseling service, and Visitor Aloha Society of Kauaʻi (VASK), a nonprofit that provides emergency needs for visitors, are assisting the victim's traveling partner. KPD personnel is working with the Chilean Consulate of Honolulu and Los Angeles.

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